

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A data storage cartridge comprising:

a housing having a top, a bottom, a front side, a back side, a first lateral side, and a second lateral side, said housing having a first media access aperture on the top of the housing; and
a data storage medium contained within the housing, the data storage medium comprising a disk with a top and a bottom;

wherein the front side of the housing contains a first segment of reduced thickness less than a thickness of the front side of the housing, and
wherein the first segment of reduced thickness is adjacent to the first media access aperture and has a length along the front side of the housing, perpendicular to the thickness of the front side of the housing, which is less than or equal to a width of the first media access aperture parallel to the front side of the housing.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The data storage cartridge of claim 1, further comprising:

a second media access aperture provided on the bottom of the housing;
wherein the front side of the housing contains a second segment of reduced thickness less than a thickness of the front side of the housing, the second segment adjacent the second media access aperture.

Claim 3 (original): The data storage cartridge of claim 1, wherein:

the first segment of reduced thickness defines an opening extending from a plane defined by the top of the housing to a plane defined by the top of the data storage medium.

Claim 4 (original): The data storage cartridge of claim 1, wherein:

said housing further comprises a shutter assembly movable from a closed position to an open position such that the shutter assembly blocks at least part of the first segment of reduced thickness when in the closed position and exposes at least part of the first segment of reduced thickness when in the open position.

Claim 5 (original): The data storage cartridge of claim 1, wherein:
the data storage medium comprises a holographic storage medium.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A data storage cartridge, comprising:
a housing comprising a top shell and a bottom shell, said housing having a housing thickness; and

a data storage medium contained within the housing between the top shell and the bottom shell;

wherein said housing has an access side comprising a region of reduced thickness less than the housing thickness, and a length of the region of reduced thickness along the access side is less than or equal to a width of a media access aperture formed in the housing.

Claim 7 (original): The data storage cartridge of claim 6, wherein:
the region of reduced thickness defines an opening extending from a plane defined by the top of the housing to a plane defined by a top surface of the data storage medium.

Claim 8 (original): The data storage cartridge of claim 6, wherein:
said housing further comprises a shutter assembly movable from a closed position to an open position such that the shutter assembly blocks at least part of the first segment of reduced thickness when in the closed position and exposes at least part of the first segment of reduced thickness when in the open position.

Claim 9 (original): The data storage cartridge of claim 6, wherein:
the data storage medium comprises a holographic storage medium.

Claim 10 (original): A data storage cartridge, comprising:
a housing comprising a top side, a bottom side, and an access side, the top side of the housing defining a top plane; and
a data storage medium contained within the housing;
wherein said housing includes an unobstructed access path to the data storage medium from the access side, said unobstructed access path passing through the top plane.

Claim 11 (original): The data storage cartridge of claim 10, wherein:
said housing further comprises a shutter assembly movable from a closed position to an open position such that the shutter assembly blocks the access path when in the closed position and exposes the access path when in the open position.

Claim 12 (original): The data storage cartridge of claim 10, wherein:
said data storage medium comprises a holographic data storage medium.

Claims 13 - 26 (cancelled)

Claim 27 (new): The data storage cartridge of claim 10, wherein the access side comprises a reduced thickness region defining a portion of the unobstructed access path to the data storage medium from the access side.

Claim 28 (new): The data storage cartridge of claim 10, wherein a length of the unobstructed access path from the access side is less than or equal to a width of a media access aperture formed in the top side of the housing.